



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: October 10, 2010

Number: 31

Released: October 12, 2010

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10, 2010

The clear dry weather permitted field activities to progress last week. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.8. Producers took advantage of the parched weather by preparing the land for fall planting. Grain and bean farmers are harvesting soybeans, planting small grains and cover crops. Strawberry transplants are growing and are establishing well. Cotton harvest is continuing and diggings of peanuts are ongoing.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 12, 2010	38	43	19	0
September 19, 2010	59	31	10	0
September 26, 2010	56	34	10	0
October 3, 2010	4	18	55	23
October 10, 2010	6	27	63	4

IN THIS REPORT:

Crop Condition Percent	pg 2
Crop Progress Percent With Comparisons	pg 2
Weather Summary Table	pg 3
Reporter Comments by County	pg 3,4

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	19	33	33	14	1
Livestock	2	10	35	43	10
Soybeans	17	31	42	9	1
Peanuts	38	40	18	4	0
Cotton	20	29	34	17	0
Apples, All	0	35	48	10	7

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Harvested for Grain	87	85	52	65
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	87	76	69	71
Soybeans Harvested	14	8	6	9
Winter Wheat Seeded	23	14	19	15
Barley Seeded	50	24	48	48
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	83	70	88	85
Peanuts Dug	27	18	46	50
Peanuts Combined	12	6	23	35
Cotton Bolls Opening	93	84	84	95
Cotton Harvested	30	20	14	23
Fall Apples Harvested	69	60	82	82
Winter Apples Harvested	65	60	46	35
Oats for Grain Seeded	54	30	36	16

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10, 2010

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Oct 9	Mar. 1 to Oct 9 Normal	Last Week	Since Sept 1	Sept 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	71	46	81	41	58	-2	4050	3642	5.00	6.88	1.90	39.15	4.51
Norfolk	70	53	81	48	62	-4	4725	4070	8.90	13.13	8.01	45.96	8.60
Richmond	71	47	84	42	59	-4	4631	3947	2.10	6.71	1.63	29.44	-5.60
Roanoke	70	48	83	45	59	-2	4256	NA	1.70	7.58	2.76	36.93	2.74
Wash/Dulles	68	46	83	40	57	-3	4171	NA	6.60	6.84	2.03	33.35	0.34

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

NORTHERN

FAIRFAX (Adria Bordas)

The week started off with cold weather. As the week came to an end the weather became warmer with temperature in the lower 80's.

PRINCE WILLIAM (Paige Thacker)

We have found that those who manage pastures intensively, adding organic matter and rotating properly are not experiencing as much loss as those using more traditional methods. Corn that was planted later in the season never silken and turned brown on top. The second crops of soybeans are experiencing losses.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

The dry conditions permitted field work to develop this week. Pasture and hayfield conditions have improved but more rain is needed.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Harvesting is moving along with the weather conditions.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Farmers are very busy getting land prepared for small grain planting. Hay cutting is almost finished and many cattle producers are still feeding hay. Corn and soybean harvest well underway.

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Grain and bean farmers are harvesting soybeans, and planting small grains and cover crops. Corn harvest is done.

Caroline (continued)

Vegetable farmers are cleaning up beds for summer crops and harvesting fall and winter greens and squash. Pumpkin harvest was good this year.

FLUVANNA (John Thompson)

The promise of continued rainfall and some warmth during the day is providing grass growth, for late hay production and some fall stockpiling of fescue. Hay yields have thus far been so low. The demand and cost of hay is increasing quickly.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Farmers spent the week planting barley, renovating pastures, and harvesting soybeans. Soybean yields are quite variable, but generally below average.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Field activity has returned. Farmers are getting ready for fall planting. Some corn still being harvested and soybean harvest is gearing up in some areas. Barley, cover crop and some wheat planting has begun. Some areas in the county experienced 12-15 inches of rain. The fields soaked it up in a hurry and the farmers got back into the fields.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Cooler temperatures are winding down vegetable harvests. Strawberry transplants growing and are establishing well. Cattle and sheep producers are enjoying higher prices at auction now.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

The rainfall helped moisture the fields. However some wind and some return of heat did not leave the moisture in tack. A Burning Ban has been place on the county until further notice. Some producers are getting a second cut of hay and it is not yielding well. Soybeans are dropping leaves and are very small in the pods for most producers.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Field work had started again and harvest was at full steam over the weekend. Peanuts, cotton, and early soybeans are being brought in as the soil and crop has dried down. Early reports show that peanuts are likely 50% of average yields and grades have suffered as well. Peanuts are "light" with a lot of unfilled pods. Some barley has been planted for hay and grazing. Most small grain seeding will begin in earnest this week.

SOUTHEASTERN (continued)

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Cotton harvest is enduring and digging of peanuts has started this weekend. Soil moisture is good and weather is cooperating with the harvesting of cotton and peanuts. Pastures are still in bad shape and ranchers are continuing feeding hay.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Soybean harvest began this week after wet field conditions returned to normal, following the heavy rain event week before last. Strawberry fields have been transplanted and are experiencing excellent weather conditions for setting plants.

National
Agricultural



Statistic
Service

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office

PO BOX 1659

Richmond, VA 23218-1659

Phone (804) 771-2493

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

Address Service Requested